FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FATAH CALLS FOR ARAB MEETING ON LIBYAN ACTIONS

NC121406 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 12 Dec 79 NC

[11 December statement by Fatah Central Committee on current events in Libya]

[Text] The Fatah Central Committee held an emergency meeting to discuss developments in the situation in Libya. Stemming from our commitment to our national questions, our opposition to the capitulatory Israeli-Egyptian treaty and our loyalty to our firm principles rejecting trusteeship, containment and subservience, as well as to defend the independence of the Palestinian decision, the Fatah Central Committee decided:

1. To reject all measures adopted by the Libyan authorities against the Palestinian people residing in Libya and the attempts to carry out special experiments on them following Al-Qadhdhafi's speech about the Lebanese arena, and to affirm that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This legitimacy primarily stems from our Palestinian people, the fighting Palestinian gun and the continuing revolution of this great people and their pioneering revolutionary experiment.

2. To denounce the Libyan authorities' attempt to escalate the situation which would only benefit the forces, who oppose our Arab nation, being led by world imperialism, Zionism and their agents in the area, at the expense of resistance to the treaty of capitulation and betrayal and the Camp David agreement.

3. At this phase we stress the Palestinian national unity within the framework of the PLO and the Palestinian revolution, which the Libyan authority has dreams of deceiving so as to implement its plots against the PLO and the Palestinian people.

4. In affirmation of the PLO Executive Committee's call, the Fatah Central Committee calls for an urgent general Arab meeting or a meeting of the steadfastness states--at any level--to discuss the Libyan regime's attempts to divide the united Arab stand, including the Steadfastness Front's, and to harm the legitimacy of PLO representation while the PLO is engaged in a ferocious battle inside and outside the occupied territory.

5. We will maintain the wisdom and patience shown over the past 5 years toward Al-Qadhdhafi and the Libyan regime's transgressions against the Palestinian people, their revolution and their organization. We will place the case before the masses of the Arab people in general, the Libyan people in particular, so that they may judge both us and this [Libyan] regime and so that every one of us may assume his national and pan-Arab duty in this critical phase which confronts our Arab nation and the Palestinian revolution while waging battles at various levels.

6. We pledge to our people and our Arab nation that we will continue to wage the basic battle against the Zionist enemy through the armed struggle for the liberation of Palestine. We will defend the honor of the principles in which we believe and which have guided our revolutionary march. We will continue to reject trusteeship, submission and containment backed by our deep belief in the principles of our glorious revolution as the path to victory and liberation of our usurped land--our dear Palestine.

Long live the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of our steadfast people; long live the masses of our people in the occupied homeland and abroad; long live the Arab nation.

'ARAFAT ASKS SOUTH YEMEN'S ISMA'IL TO MEDIATE WITH LIBYA

NC130856 Paris AFP in English 0833 GMT 13 Dec 79 NC

[Excerpt] Beirut, 13 Dec (AFP)--Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasir 'Arafat has asked South Yemeni President 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il to mediate in the PLO's row with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the Lebanese daily AL-LIWA', usually well informed on Palestinian questions, reported today.

As a condition for reconciliation Mr 'Arafat has insisted that Libyan military and financial aid to the PLO should go to him and Libya should end what he called its "anti-Palestinian campaign in Europe," the paper said.

South Yemen is a member of the "Steadfastness Front" with the PLO, Syria, Algeria, and Libya, opposed to Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat's policy of peace with Israel.

The row between the PLO and Libya dates back several months when Mr 'Arafat preferred, "at a time when real risks threatened President al-Qadhdhafi's regime, not to interfere in an affair he considered wholly Libyan," AL-LIWA' said, without giving further details.

'ARAFAT RECEIVES SOVIET DELEGATION 11 DEC

NC121340 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1115 GMT 12 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar last night received a Soviet delegation which is currently visiting Lebanon. The Soviet delegation includes the deputy chairman of the International Relations Department of the CPSU Central Committee, the official responsible for relations with the Arab states, the official responsible for rleations with Lebanon and Syria, the Soviet ambassador in Beirut, and several Soviet Embassy staff members.

The meeting was attended on the Palestinian side by Comrade George Habash, the secretary general of the PFLP; Brother Abu al-Lutf, head of the PLO Political Department; and a number of Palestinian officials.

The two sides exchanged views on international, Arab, and Palestinian issues of mutual interest. The Soviet delegation presented a gift to brother Commander Abu 'Ammar.

'ARAFAT ADDRESSES BANQUET IN HONOR OF IRANIAN DELEGATION

NC121855 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1630 GMT 12 Dec 79 NC

[Speech by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at a luncheon--place not given--on 12 December in honor of the visiting Iranian delegation under the leadership of Shaykh Mustafa Rahnana, chairman of the Iranian society for cooperation with Palestine--recorded]

[Text] God is great--long live the Iranian revolution! God is great--long live the Palestinian revolution! [applause] God is great, and long live these two embracing and cohesive revolutions in order to change the decay in this Arab region and in order that the revolution and its revolutionaries bring about a real change in the area through Iranian-Palestinian cohesion [applause] under the leadership of our great imam, the higher authority--our Imam Ruhollah Khomeyni. [applause]

I repeat what I said a few days ago: The Palestinian revolution, national movement, national front and all forces--chiefly southern Lebanon--are united in solidarity with the blessed revolution [applause], the faithful and blessed revolution under the leadership of our great Imam Khomeyni. I reiterate that our Imam Khomeyni has only to issue orders and we here, the national Lebanese and the Palestinian people, will carry them out to destroy all the interests of imperialism. [applause]

Brothers: World imperialism was shaken when the heroic Iranian people's revolution triumphed. World imperialism was shaken when the revolution of the faithful and Muslim people of Iran triumphed and destroyed the throne of treason and agentry--the throne of the shah, who wanted Iran to become a cell of espionage to strike at this region and at our Arab and Islamic nation. Our great and heroic imam and the Muslim people of Iran rose up to offer thousands of martyrs in order to change not only the face of Iran but that of the entire region. [applause]

They say that there are two revolutions--the Palestinian and the Iranian. However, in my name as commander of the Palestinian revolution, in the name of my brothers in the Fatah movement and in my name and the name of my brothers in the Executive Committee, I say that these are not two revolutions but one, under the leadership of our Imam Khomeyni. [applause] I say this, brothers, fully aware of what this means. Our brothers in Lebanon who opened their hearts before opening their houses to us know what this means. Because these brothers made sacrifices to defend the Palestinian revolution, we all now stand in this trench to defend the Iranian Revolution. [applause] By doing this, we are not doing favors or making sacrifices, but are actually defending everything that is honorable and revolutionary in this region so that it may remain free from international monopolies, from U.S. imperialism and from the deomination of its foster child-Zionism. We are doing this so that this region may remain for the free, honorable, faithful and revolutionary people under the Iranian revolution led by our leader Imam Khomeyni. [applause]

Brother Mustafa: I and my brothers the Lebanese nationalists not only welcome you in this place but also tell you to inform our brothers in revolutionary and faithful Iran that despite our sufferings, despite the fierce plot that aims at devouring Lebanon as it devoured Palestine, and despite the fact that we are standing on this advanced line in order to defend the Arabism of Lebanon and everything that is revolutionary, progressive and Arab in Lebanon--despite all this, we are prepared to act and are ready to go with the heroic Lebanese fighter and fight anyone there on the [word indistinct] land of Iran who attempts to harm the Iranian Revolution and antagonize it. [applause]

We know that the road is difficult and long, and that we are confronting mighty enemies. However, our faith in our strength is greater than their faith in their strength. Therefore, victory will be ours! Victory will be ours! Victory will be ours! Victory will be ours! [applause]

This is a pledge of honorable people to honorable people and of revolutionaries to revolutionaries to remain alongside each other until we change everything that is wrong and [word indistinct] in this region in order that it may enjoy a free will and existence and become strong so that the peoples and will of this nation may triumph. We will be together until victory, until victory, until victory, until victory.

LEADERS CITED ON IRANIAN REVOLUTION'S SIGNIFICANCE

LD111431 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 9 Dec 79 p 2 LD

[Unattributed ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT correspondent dispatch: "Palestinian-Iranian Relations: How Did They Begin, and in Which Direction Are They Going"]

[Text] Damascus--It is perhaps true that the relationship between the Palestinian and Iranian revolutions grew and flourished in Beirut and Lebanon, but few people know that the seed of this relationship was sown in Damascus, where the Iranian leaders in exile met for the first time with the leaders of the Palestinian revolution and together laid the foundations of a political and military cooperation which has now begun to bear fruit.

Damascus continues to be the center of some of the strongest Palestinian organizations, particularly the Palestine National Council and its subsidiary establishments. The leaders of the Palestinian revolution in Damascus followed the extreme satisfaction the first proclamations issued by the government following the overthrow of the shah's regime in Iran, considering them the fruit of long years of joint struggle because they very clearly pledged support for the Palestinian revolution, for the defense of the Palestinians' rights and for Jerusalem and denounced Israel, Zionism and imperialism.

In fact, the Palestinian leaders in Damascus agree that this clear stand by the Iranian Revolution will inevitably augment the driving force of the Palestinian revolution.

Palestine National Council Chairman Khalid al-Fahum has pointed out that Iran's strong support for the Palestinian revolution has been very clear since the beginning of the Iranian Revolution. The revolution leaders fully support the Palestinian struggle against Zionism and Israeli expansion. Consequently, they cut off Iran oil supplies to Israel, whereas the shah established with the Zionist enemy relations that were not in the interest of the Palestinian cause and revolution.

The Iranian Revolution has also severed its relations with As-Sadat's regime, rejected the Camp David agreements and strongly opposed As-Sadat's policy, which is aimed at liquidating the Palestinian cause.

Al-Fahum emphasized that Iran's new stand is a true copy of the stand adopted by the Arab states following the Baghdad summit conference. The Iranian Revolution has also given political support to the PLO at the nonalined states summit conference, the Islamic states conference and the United Nations.

PLO Executive Committee member Muhammad Zuhdi an-Nashashibi has likewise said that Palestinian-Iranian relations are constantly progressing and developing and aiming at aohieving an alliance that expresses the Iranian people's complete solidarity with the Palestinian people, their cause and their inalienable national rights as well as the Palestinian revolution's solidarity with the Iranians and their popular revolution in their stand against imperialism and Zionism.

An-Nashashibi explained that the Iranian people have several weapons, all of which can be used in the interest of the Palestinian struggle.

Asked to define some of these weapons, An-Nashashibi said that they include the political influence of the Iranian revolution, especially if it emerges triumphant from the crisis of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. He added that, if it triumphs, Khomeyni will become the strongest man of this era, because he will have proved to the world and to those who appear to hesitate in confronting imperialism that imperialism is no more than a paper tiger.

It is natural for this unique relationship between the Iranian and Palestinian popular revolutions in an explosive area like the Middle East to have affected local policies in the Middle East.

Asked if he felt that Iranian-Palestinian relations might have an impact on Palestinian relations with the Gulf countries and whether the Palestinians and the Gulf states have different views on the Iranian Revolution, chairman of the Palestine National Council Al-Fahum summed up his personal view as follows:

If we ponder the reasons for the tension in relations between the shah and the Arab nation, we will discover that his open cooperation with the Israeli enemy was not the only reason for it. The shah interfered in the affairs of the Arab Gulf. His interference had an expansionist character--witness the occupation of the islands of Abu Musa and Lesser and Greater Tunb. The shah always sought to interfere in the Gulf states' internal affairs. While we wish everything that is good, stability and success for the Iranian Revolution, we must emphasize that these things can materialize only through the establishment of the best relations with the Arab nation, particularly with the Gulf states. Any insinuations or statements by one or more officials of the Iranian Revolution such as those that can be interpreted as interference in the Gulf states' internal affairs will inevitably increase tension in the atmosphere with the Arab states, including the PLO, at a time when the most important factor for the success of the Iranian revolution is the building of fraternal and friendly relations with its Arab neighbors.

Al-Fahum asserted, however, that Palestinian-Iranian relations are undoubtedly a factor that will contribute to the establishment of good relations between Iran and the Gulf Arab states to the mutual benefit of the two sides--relations that will eventually constitute great support for the Palestinian cause.

Regarding the second part of the question, Al-Fahum said that the Palestinians are now struggling to win the support of all the peoples and states of the world for their cause. He added: We yearn painfully for the establishment of good relations with all the Arab states except As-Sadat's regime. It would be illogical for us to establish good relations with any other Islamic or foreign state at the expense of our relations with the Arab states.

On the other hand, An-Nashashibi said: If some Arab states in the Gulf feel that the Palestinian revolution is closer to the Iranian Revolution than to them during the current phase, those states will discover in the end that the Palestinian revolution had contributed extensively to the creation of a better atmosphere of cooperation and mutual understanding between the Arab nation and Iran in the interest of the two sides, particularly in the interest of the Gulf states, their security, stability and future.

He added: What now appears to be a difference in views between the Palestinians and the Gulf states in relation to the Iranian Revolution is due to the lack of a deep evaluation of the Iranian Revolution's role in the Arab nation's steadfastness and confrontation against imperialism and Zionism.

He went on to say: The Palestinian revolution has made and continues to make serious attempts to show the Gulf states that the Iranian Revolution is a strategic support for the forces of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front against imperialist attempts to dominate and hints of planning to take over Arab oil sources.

UAE, SAUDI ARABIA, QATAR RAISE OIL PRICES $6

JN130648 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0645 GMT 13 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 December--The UAE, Saudi Arabia and the State of Qatar have decided to increase their oil prices by $6 per barrel. This was contained in a statement made today to the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY by UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah prior to his departure for Paris en route to Caracas to attend the OPEC meetings scheduled to begin in the Venezuelan capital next Monday.

It is recalled that the UAE oil price was $21.56 per barrel.

KUWAIT

AL-ANBA' REPORTS GULF STATE CONTACTS ON U.S. REQUEST

LD131104 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0828 GMT 13 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--The Kuwaiti AL-ANBA' said today that "urgent" contacts took place among the Gulf states to convince one of them not to meet a U.S. request to allow American forces to be stationed on its territory. The paper did not name the state in question. It quoted Gulf sources, which it did not specifically identify, as saying that contacts were held immediately upon the receipt of information to the effect that the United States was seeking the approval of a Gulf state for the presence of an American force in one of its islands or on its territory. It said that the other Gulf states endeavored to convince this state that to approve the American demand would push the region into "the kiln of the cold war" which is escalating as a result of the crisis between the United States and Iran over the U.S. Embassy issue in Tehran.

UAE

OMANI OIL MINISTER ARRIVES ON SHORT VISIT

JN121012 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0950 GMT 12 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 12 December--Omani Minister of Petroleum and Minerals Sa'id ash-Shanfari [name as received], arrived here today on a short visit to the UAE. During the visit the Omani minister will hold talks with UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utayabah dealing with bilateral consultations and coordination in the oil sphere and with topics that will be discussed by the OPEC conference in Caracas on 17 December.

It is worth mentioning that Oman is not an OPEC member.

IRAQI PRESIDENT'S ENVOY DELIVERS MESSAGE, DEPARTS

JN130737 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0730 GMT 13 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 December--Nuri Faysal Shahir, Iraqi awqaf minister and President Saddam Husayn's envoy, left Abu Dhabi today following a visit to the UAE, concluding his tour of several states in the area. While in Abu Dhabi, Shahir conveyed a message to UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. The message deals with Iraq's invitation to hold an OPEC conference in Baghdad in October 1980 to assess OPEC's activities during past years and to draw up a new working plan for the next state.

ROMANIAN TRADE MINISTER CORNEL BURTICA PAYS VISIT

JN101152 Doha QNA in Arabic 1100 GMT 10 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 10 December--His Highness Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum, UAE vice president and prime minister, has received Cornel Burtica, Romanian deputy prime minister and minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation, who is currently visiting the UAE. During the meeting they discussed means of strengthening and developing relations between the UAE and Romania.

Asks for More Oil

JN101528 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1510 GMT 10 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 10 December--Romania has expressed the desire to increase the amount of oil it imports from the UAE because Romanian oil production does not cover its domestic needs. This was contained in a statement made by Cornel Burtica, Romanian deputy prime minister and minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation, after his meeting with Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources.

Burtica said that he and Dr al-'Utaybah discussed bilateral relations and ways of developing them in the economic and trade spheres. Burtica expressed the hope that the talks would help to increase Romanian exports to the UAE in exchange for the increase in Romania's imports from the state.

Leaves 11 Dec

JN110909 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0845 GMT 11 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 11 December--Cornel Burtica, Romanian deputy prime minister and foreign trade and international economic cooperation minister, left here this morning for home following a 3-day visit, during which he held talks with UAE officials on ways of deepening and developing economic and trade relations.

YAR

AL-'ARASHI RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM CZECHOSLOVAK OFFICIAL

JN121423 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, vice president and Constituent People's Assembly speaker, received in his office this morning Czechoslovak Ambassador to the YAR (Frantisek Kubicek), who conveyed a message from Czechoslovak Federal Assembly Chairman Alois Indra and documents dealing with the search for finding solutions to contemporary world problems, particularly the dangers inherent in the frenzied escalation of the nuclear arms race. These documents were drawn up by the participants in the Prague consultative meeting.

The brother vice president asked his excellency the ambassador to convey his greetings to the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly chairman, affirming that the message and documents will be closely studied.

Bilateral relations were also discussed at the meeting, which was attended by a Foreign Ministry protocol official.

LINOWITZ, BURG ARRIVE IN CAIRO FOR AUTONOMY TALKS

NC121407 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1357 GMT 12 Dec 79 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 12 December--U.S. Middle East envoy Sol Linowitz and Yosef Burg, the Israeli interior minister and head of its delegation to the autonomy talks, arrived in Cairo from Israel on board a private U.S. plane.

Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil is scheduled to meet with them this evening. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali will attend the meeting.

Delegations Hold Meeting

NC121547 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 Dec 79 NC

[Text] At 1530 today Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil met in his office with Ambassador Sol Linowitz, the head of the U.S. delegation to the Palestinian autonomy talks, and Dr Yosef Burg Israeli interior minister and head of Israel's delegation to the talks.

The meeting ended at 1630. Later, the heads of the delegations held a plenary meeting, attended by members of the three delegations, to complete the discussion of the topics aimed at driving the autonomy talks forward and overcoming obstacles in order to achieve the establishment of full autonomy for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza.

Press Conference Report

NC121923 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1750 GMT 12 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 12 December--Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil made a statement at the beginning of the press conference he held today at the end of the tripartite meeting of the heads of the delegations to the autonomy negotiations. The press conference was attended by Israeli Interior Minister Yosef Burg and Sol Linowitz, the head of the U.S. delegation to the negotiations.

Dr Mustafa Khalil opened the press conference by saying: I would like to say a few words before we begin the press conference. I would like to express my appreciation to Burg and Sol Linowitz for accepting my invitation to come to Egypt and meet with me. I would like to say that the reason for this was because I was preoccupied with internal affairs and engaged in cabinet matters.

Dr Mustafa Khalil said: Our meeting today was fruitful. The three of us met and then held a plenary meeting that was attended by members of the three delegations. Dr Mustafa Khalil added: We discussed the work of the two subcommittees. Each of us expressed his views on the work that has been done. We have defined some problems, and there is a need for more discussions and more work by these committees.

Dr Mustafa Khalil said: Unfortunately, Sol Linowitz will not be able to participate in the next meeting of the autonomy negotiations' general committee. Dr Khalil said: Dr Burg generously accepted my invitation to hold the next meeting of the general committee in Al-Jizah on 19 December. The delegations will arrive on 18 December, and we will have a full day's work next Wednesday.

Dr Khalil indicated that the committee will agree on the date for its next session. He said: We shall contact Sol Linowitz and inform him of the date for that session, which will be attended by the three delegations.

Sol Linowitz, head of the U.S. delegation, then said: As Dr Mustafa Khalil has said, this was the first time I participated in talks with Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil and Dr Yosef Burg. We held a useful working session and made progress. I am pleased with the spirit that prevails in Egypt and Israel. We can achieve the aim for which we are working. We have reason to hope that the progress we are seeking will be achieved.

Head of the Israeli delegation Dr Yosef Burg then delivered a statement in which he thanked Dr Mustafa Khalil and Sol Linowitz. He then said: Since I do not belong to the opposition, I accept what Dr Mustafa Khalil has said about what the subcommittees have achieved. I am pleased with Dr Mustafa Khalil's invitation to us to come to Cairo to discuss not only what has been prepared in both subcommittees' meetings--which continued for 12 days--but also to prepare for what we must discuss in the coming meetings. I think we are moving on the road of success.

Asked whether it would be possible to achieve the aim on time and whether Sol Linowitz submitted new ideas to him today, Dr Mustafa Khalil said: With regard to the first part of the question, I agree with Sol Linowitz on the possibility of achieving the aim within the timelimit. As for the second part of the question regarding new ideas, Linowitz, participation helped us arrive at new ideas and discuss others, which I think he also presented to Burg.

In reply to another question, Dr Mustafa Khalil said: As I told you before, we reviewed the work of the subcommittees and tried to reach agreement on the date for the next meetings. We will leave it to the general committee to discuss these and other ideas in its 19 December meeting.

Answering a question, Linowitz said: We have made some progress on how to proceed with future steps in order to meet the date agreed upon--May 1980.

Asked if he received any ideas from Egypt and Israel that made him believe that it was possible to end the negotiations on the proposed date--May 1980--Linowtz said: It is better that we set aside an answer to this question and connect it with the progress of the discussions.

Asked if he submitted ideas encouraging the Palestinians to particpate in the next stage, Sol Linowitz said: We have agreed not to announce what we discussed at our working sessions. We prefer to abide by this commitment and not divulge anything about the details of our discussions. We are aware of the problems, and we will tackle them effectively at the next meeting.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali also attended the press conference.

Linowitz, Burg Depart

NC121807 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1740 GMT 12 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 12 December--Sol Linowitz, the U.S. envoy to the Middle East, and Dr Yosef Burg, the Israeli interior minister and head of Israel's delegation to the talks on autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza, left Cairo for Israel this evening after participating in autonomy talks with Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil.

MOZAMBIQUE PRESIDENT MACHEL, DELEGATION CONCLUDE VISIT

Meeting With Saddam Husayn

JN121842 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 12 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 12, December--A closed meeting was held here this evening between President Saddam Husayn and Mozambique President Samora Moises Machel, who is currently visiting Iraq. At the meeting, the two presidents completed the talks between the two sides dealing with thepromotion of bilateral cooperation in all fields.

Cooperation Agreements

JN121508 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1420 GMT 12 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 12 December--Iraq and Mozambique signed here today two agreements for economic, trade, scientific and technical cooperation. The agreements were signed for the Iraqi side by Hikmat Ibrahim, RCC member and head of the Economic Relations Office of the council, and Finance Minister Thamir Razuqi, while Foreign Trade Minister Salomao Munguambe and Bank of Mozambique Governor Sergio Vieira signed the agreements for Mozambique.

The two agreements aim at promoting cooperation in the economic, trade, scientific and technical fields and provide for the exchange of expertise and commodities between the two countries.

A contract between the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY and the MOZAMBIQUE INFORMATION AGENCY was also signed. It includes coordination, training and the exchange and transmission of news between the two agencies. The contract was signed by INA director Taha Yasin Hasan and by (Jose Motaldibes), a technical expert in the Mozambique delegation.

Machel Press Conference

JN130938 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0725 GMT 13 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 13 December--Mozambican President Samora Moises Machel has described his talks with President Saddam Husayn as fruitful and positive. The Mozambique president added that these talks dealt with ways to bolster relations of friendship and solidarity in struggle between the two states' peoples and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Mozambique Liberation Front [FRELIMO].

At a press conference at his residence in the Baghdad palace late last night, attended by correspondents from Arab and foreign press and news agencies as well as domestic papers' correspondents, Samora Moises Machel expressed his great admiration for Iraq's achievements under the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

The Mozambican president cited his talks with President Saddam Husayn and the RCC members which dealt with various issues, including issues relating to the Middle East and southern Africa. He said these talks affirmed the common stands against colonialism, imperialism, racial discrimination and Zionism. The Mozambique president added that it was agreed during these meetings that the practices of South Africa in the African Continent and those of Zionism in the Arab region proceed from one stand and are similar.

The Mozambican president pointed out that the talks also dealt with bilateral relations in all fields and that the two sides agreed to establish strong and continuous bilateral relations in order to bolster the nonalined movement in the international community.

The Mozambican president lauded Iraq's stands and struggle against Zionism and colonialism, its rejection of the treasonous accords and struggle for the Arab people's unity. Samora Moises Machel added: The sound course followed by Iraq is a realistic reflection of the sound policy followed by President Saddam Husayn and the RCC. The struggle waged by the Iraqi people is an integral part of the struggle humanity everywhere is waging. The Mozambican president praised President Saddam Husayn, saying that he is endowed with such qualities as sincerity, courage and great dedication to the service and prosperity of Iraq.

In the course of his answers to questions posed by reporters and correspondents, President Samora Moises Machel affirmed that Iraq and Mozambique are fighting the same enemy, which is represented by imperialism, Zionism, backwardness and exploitation.

The Mozambican president added that the main aims of his visit to Iraq are: To affirm the Arab-African cohesion of struggle, strengthen economic cooperation and exchange expertise between the two friendly countries. The Mozambican president affirmed that Iraq and Mozambique are both working with great determination to own and exploit their natural resources for the service of their peoples and to employ these resources in their struggle against colonialism and Zionism.

The Mozambican president added that the two states' peoples are playing leading roles in bolstering the unity and solidarity of struggle within the nonalined movement in order to insure and affirm that this movement is an effective peace movement.

The Mozambican president cautioned against imperialist propaganda which is attempting to fragment the nonalined movement by creating blocs.

The Mozambican president affirmed his confidence in the future of the Palestinian people's struggle to liberate Palestine and the occupied Arab territories. He cautioned against imperialist and Zionist maneuvers, which aim at making the Arabs and Africans relinquish their fateful issues. He added that colonialism still exists in Africa and attempts to provoke the Arabs and Africans in order to harm their issues.

The Mozambican president stressed that the Iraqi and African people's awareness of these facts and their consequences will strengthen and bolster Arab-African relations and guarantee a prosperous future for these relations. He affirmed that the people's will and determination will enable them to defeat colonialism and achieve victory.

The Mozambican president said that although the warships in the Arab Gulf and Indian Ocean continue their maneuvers, they will not be able to put an end to armed struggle against colonialism and Zionism.

Concluding his press conference, the Mozambican president expressed the hope that struggle of the Arab Palestinian people and the people of Namibia will eventually achieve victory.

It is to be recalled that the Mozambican president has been in Iraq since last Saturday at the invitation of president Saddam Husayn.

Departure on 13 Dec

JN131018 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 13 Dec 79 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 13 December--Mozambican President Samora Moises Machel has left Baghdad for home at the end of a 6-day visit to Iraq.

SOVIET PARTY DELEGATION ARRIVES IN BEIRUT

NC131001 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 12 Dec 79 p 4 NC

[Text] A CPSU delegation arrived in Beirut yesterday from Damascus on a visit to Lebanon at the invitation of the Lebanese Communist Party Central Committee. The delegation is led by Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the international department of the CPSU Central Committee, and includes Yuriy Gryadunov, sector chief for relations with Lebanon and Syria. The Soviet delegation was met at the border by a delegation of the command of the Lebanese Communist Party led by Political Bureau member Faruq Salim. The delegation was met in Beirut by Political Bureau member Nadim 'Abd as-Samad.

VOL: IRANIAN DELEGATION UNWELCOME IN SOUTH LEBANON

NC121341 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 12 Dec 79 NC

[Text] People coming from south Lebanon have said that the Iranian delegation led by Muslim scholar Mustafa Rahnana, which is visiting the south at the invitation of the Palestinian organization, Fatah, were severely attacked in An-Nabatiyah. Some southern villages have refused to receive the Iranian delegation. An argument broke out that could have led to an armed clash between supporters of the Shi'ite Amal movement and Fatah members escorting the delegation.

An Iranian source today said that several Iranians are currently visiting Lebanon and some Arab countries at the invitation of certain organizations. The source said that none of these is entitled to speak for the Iranian Revolutional Council and that their visits are of a cultural nature. It has been reported that several Iranians infiltrated into south Lebanon from the Syrian border over the last 2 days in two Syrian military vehicles.

LIBYAN CHARGE DISCUSSES PALESTINE TIES AT FOREIGN MINISTRY

NC121346 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 12 Dec 79 NC

[Text] The Libyan charge d'affaires in Beirut today briefed the Lebanese Foreign Minister secretary general on the details of the Libyan-Palestinian conflict. The Libyan diplomat said that his government is prepared to help Lebanon emerge from its ordeal and is also prepared to supply Lebanon with gas and oil as soon as a means of shipment becomes available. The charge d'affaires also informed the foreign minister that his government has released the four American vehicles sent to the Lebanese Army.

VOICE OF HOPE: AL-QUAY'AH SHELLED, IRANIANS PRESENT

NC130714 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 13 Dec 79 NC

[Statement by Free Lebanon forces in the eastern sector]

[Text] On 12 December at 1700 the saboteurs opened mortar and heavy artillery fire on Al-Qualay'ah from an area near An-Nabatiyah. Our forces returned the fire. The exchange ceased at 1900 on the same date. We suffered no loss on life. Losses were confined to damage to houses and property. The aggressors' losses have not been determined. It is believed that the saboteurs are deliberately creating this escalation due to the presence of some Iranian men among them, before whom the saboteurs want to flex their muscles.

ALGERIA

ALGIERS COMMENTS ON INCREASED U.S. SUPPORT FOR MOROCCO

LD091752 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 9 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Western Sahara--Coming after the meeting of the OAU ad hoc committee on the Western Sahara, the intention of President Carter to sell to Morocco 12 fighter aircraft constitutes--as the national news agency [APS] stresses--a new escalation in American support for Hassan II's regime. In this manner, the national agency notes, Washington officially denies the neutrality which it has pretended to be observing in the Western Sahara conflict. APS also remarks that this new initiative of the United States defies the appeal made by the OAU ad hoc committee inviting the international community to abstain from any action that might hamper the work of the committee.

Commenting on the new prerogatives of the new U.S. ambassador to Rabat--who, according to a high-ranking White House official, has direct access to President Carter--the national news agency observes, quoting the high-ranking official, that the United States thus wants to conceal its determination not to allow Morocco to be beaten militarily.

OAU COMMITTEE'S DELIBERATIONS ON SAHARA PRAISED

ID121111 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 7-8 Dec 79 p 1 LD

[B. Amazit commentary: "The Voice of Wisdom and Justice"]

[Text] In addition to the eminently positive nature of the recommendations made by the OAU ad hoc committee at its meeting in Monrovia on 4 and 5 December, several important facts should be emphasized, since they highlight the continental organization's intention to find a peaceful, political solution to the problems facing it and, in this case, to the decolonization of Western Sahara.

The first and undoubtedly most significant fact is that the Saharan people's representatives have for the first time been allowed to state their case to the heads of state on the OAU ad hoc committee. This is a de facto recognition which serves both the OAU, in that it is refusing to heed the slander and maneuvers of the Saharan people's enemies, and also the cause of people struggling to recover their inalienable rights. Moreover, the recommendation of the ad hoc committee heads of state thanked the POLISARIO Front secretary general for the valuable information he gave to the committee. Indeed, it seemed paradoxical to say the least that the OAU or one of its sovereign bodies could debate a question without first listening to those mainly concerned in the question, in this case the Saharan people's sole legitimate representative. It should be noted that this recognition of the POLISARIO Front's representative nature is in keeping with the logical approach which, before the Monrovia meeting, took the form of establishing contact with and meeting the leaders of all the parties concerned and involved in the Western Sahara conflict. Indeed, it will be recalled that the ad hoc committee heads of state had already heard the views of the Saharan people's representative in Algiers, when the heads of state visited our country.

Therefore it was only logical to give the representatives a second opportunity to explain their legitimate demands, now that the 16th OAU summit decisions are to be implemented. The POLISARIO Front's accepted presence in Monrovia is bound to have positive repercussions in the future on the struggle of the Saharan people, whose confidence in this organization has once again been strengthened.

The second outstanding aspects of this Monrovia meeting is undoubtedly the recommendation that an African peace-keeping force be set up. This proves that the organization is determined to provide itself with the means to implement its policy. Indeed, how can any organization be strong if its decisions are not taken into consideration by recalcitrant governments which readily violate its principles? In present circumstances it should be noted that Morocco has once again not deigned to reply to the appeal which current OAU President William Tolbert made to it. Does that mean that Morocco intends to persist in its uncertain position in relation to the recent recommendations of the OAU and its ad hoc committee? Does this policy mean joining the camp of South Africa and Israel, which alone disdain the decisions of international organizations. What will Rabat's future stance be? After following the "empty chair" policy and turning a deaf ear to the appeal for wisdom made to him, is Hassan II going to continue to take refuge in his obstinate attitude which is, in fact, a challenge to the African and international community? It is also worth noting that the ad hoc committee heads of state did not fail to emphasize their disappointment at the absence of one of the main parties concerned in this conflict in view of the fact that that party is the aggressor. Therefore, while repeating its invitation to Morocco to cooperate fully with the ad hoc committee in its work, the Monrovia meeting implicitly condemned the Moroccan theory of the fait accompli.

In fact this meeting is not the last and this committee, set up by the heads of state conference and hence a sovereign body representative of those heads of state, will have to have further meetings to follow closely the development of the situation in this region. By taking up the Western Sahara question, the OAU has refused to regard it as closed. On the contrary, the ad hoc committee, which has an official mandate from the OAU and especially the 16th summit conference, has decided to pursue the affair to its conclusion. This is a body which takes practical steps which nobody could contest. Consequently, all parties in the conflict should cooperate with this committee on the basis of the relevant UN and OAU principles and resolutions.

In this respect it should be noted that the heads of state at their meeting in Monrovia emphasized and highlighted the cooperation of Algeria and Mauritania which, by attending the meeting, showed their respective willingness to cooperate in a peaceful settlement of this conflict between the Saharan people and the Moroccan monarchy. By abiding by the OAU decisions, Algeria has remained faithful to its principles and its pledges to do all it can to consolidate this organization which, thanks to the constant efforts of its members and especially of the ad hoc committee, has once again asserted the voice of wisdom and done justice to the Saharan people and their struggle.

LIBYA

JANA: PEOPLE'S CONGRESS MUST DISCUSS FATAH 'INGRATITUDE'

LD121452 Tripoli JANA in English 0922 GMT 12 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Dec 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The command of the Palestinian movement "Fatah" yesterday (?declared) that it receives no support from the Jamahiriyah.

It is the duty of the People's Congress, which are discussing the Jamahiriyah's foreign policy, to understand this position which shows the ingratitude of the "Fatah" command and their (?refusal) to recognize the various forms of military and material assistance the 1st September Revolution gave the Palestinian revolution.

At-Turayki Comment

LD121642 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 12 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, the foreign secretary, has refuted the claims of some Fatah leaders that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has closed the PLO office in Tripoli. During his meeting with Arab ambassadors in Tripoli this morning he stressed that the campaign being waged by these leaders was nothing but an attempt to cover up their suspicious attitudes and contacts. The foreign secretary pointed out that the stands of the Great 1 September Revolution, which was considered the main and real mainstay of the Palestinian revolution, stemmed from its revolutionary and patriotic principles and from the Palestinian issue being a national issue, and that the Palestinian revolution was sacred while individuals were not.

The Arab ambassadors told the foreign secretary of the appreciation of their countries for the patriotic stand of the Jamahiriyah, and on their part confirmed the incorrect claims of some of Fatah's leaders. They declared that they were in contact with the movement's office in Libya, which was operating normally.

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES ALGERIA'S TALEB IBRAHIMI 11 DEC

LD121458 Tripoli JANA in English 0920 GMT 12 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Dec 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi last night received Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Algerian F.L.N. Party Political Bureau.

The talks (?centred) around measures to set up a joint committee to be entrusted to conduct discussions over unity between Algeria and Libya.

FOREIGN SECRETARY RECEIVES POLISARIO SECRETARY GENERAL

LD122040 Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 1715 GMT 12 Dec 79 LD

[Text] This morning the foreign secretary received brother Mohamed Abul Aziz, POLISARIO secretary general, and reviewed the latest developments in Western Sahara, following the Monrovia conference on the Sahara, and the Saharan people's fight for the retrieval of their land and the attainment of their freedom.

ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH GREECE

LD122053 Tripoli JANA in English 1801 GMT 12 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, December 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning Mr. Musa Abu Furaywah, and the Greek minister of finance this morning signed a protocol for economic and technical cooperation between the Jamahiriyah and Greece.

The protocol includes the establishment of joint corporations in different fields and the setting up of a commercial sea route that links the (?ports) of Libya and Greece, as well as Greek companies to train Libyans in several fields and supervise the running of vocational training institutes.

Greek Minister Departs

LD122054 Tripoli JANA in English 1803 GMT 12 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, December 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The Greek Minister of Finance, Kanellopoulos, and the chairman of the Greek-Arab Relations Committee (?who is member) of parliament left here today after a visit to the Jamahiriyah during which they held talks on bilateral cooperation.

They were seen off a Tripoli international airport by Musa Abu Furaywah, secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning, the planning under-secretary, the Greek ambassador to the Jamahiriyah and a representative from the Protocol Department at the Foreign Secretariat.

MOROCCO

MINISTER DOUIRI RETURNS FROM ROMANIA, COMMENTS ON VISIT

LD101324 Rabat MAP in English 1214 GMT 10 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Rabat, Dec 10 (MAP)--M'hamed Douiri, Moroccan minister of equipment and national promotion, returned here Sunday from a visit to Romania, during which he handed Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu a message from King Hassan II of Morocco.

In a statement to newsmen, Douiri indicated that he will convey to King Hassan II of Morocco the content of his talks with the Romanian president. He also emphasized the importance of the two countries relations and recalled Romania's current participation in the equipment of the two Moroccan ports on the Mediterranean Sea.

On the other hand, Douiri said that he had been invited by the front of the socialist unity. "It was the occasion for us to expose Morocco's problems, particularly the aggressions perpetrated by the Algeria officials against our country", added he. The Moroccan minister finally announced the coming visit to Morocco of the Romanian foreign affairs minister, who will preside over the meeting of the joint Moroccan-Romanian commission.

SUDAN

RIYADH: SUDAN CALLS FOR U.S.- PLO DIALOG ON PALESTINE ISSUE

LD121430 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Fatih Bisharah, Sudan's ambassador to the kingdom, has praised the firm relations between the kingdom and his country and has described them as being more than excellent. He also praised the kingdom's efforts bent on strengthening Arab solidarity and working for the Palestinian cause.

This has come in a statement he made to AR-RIYADH published today. In it he denounces the Camp David agreements and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. He says that it did not achieve anything in the sphere of regaining the occupied Arab territories and the usurped Palestinian rights. He underlines that Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri on more than one occasion has announced that Sudan's stand on the Middle East issue is firm and its policy is unified, and it believes that the core of this issue is the Palestinian problem.

Mr Fatih calls for a direct dialog between the United States and the PLO which, he stresses, is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He points out that the so-called self-rule project and the negotiations about it have failed completely because the two sides have kept the Palestinians from taking part in the project. He adds that any attempt of this kind in which the Palestinian do not take part is considered a failure.

TUNISIA

PLO REPRESENTATIVE THANKS BOURGUIBA FOR SOLIDARITY

LD121736 Tunis TAP in English 1355 GMT 12 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Carthage, Dec 12 (TAP)--President Bourguiba received this morning at Carthage Palace Mr Hasan Balawi, PLO representative in Tunis who came to convey the Palestinian people's regard for the president's sincere stands and for the Tunisian people's positions with respect to the Palestinian people's struggle and its strengthening in all fields, for his continuous support to the PLO, the Palestinian people's only legitimate representative, and his constant refusal of any trusteeship over the Palestinians or any interference in their internal affairs.

BURG, LINOWITZ RETURN FROM CAIRO MEETING 12 DEC

TA121740 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 12 Dec 79 TA

[Text] Let us now transfer our broadcast to Ben-Gurion Airport for a live broadcast. A minute or two ago, Sol Linowitz, the special U.S. envoy to the autonomy talks, and Minister Yosef Burg, the head of the Israeli team, returned from Cairo where they met with Egyptian Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil. Dan Eshel is our correspondent at the airport. Over to you, Dan.

[Eshel] One of the goals of the tripartite meeting in Cairo was to set a time and place for the plenary meeting. The place will be Giza, Egypt. We heard further details from the head of the Israeli team, Dr Yosef Burg.

[Begin Burg recording] We had a meeting with the Egyptian prime minister. I can describe that meeting as a successful one. We set the plenary session for next week, even though, to our regret, Sol Linowitz will not be present due to changes in the schedule. We talked about the conclusions of the working teams. We are inclined to [accept] them. We talked about how we would like to progress and I think that in this respect I have the honor and the permission to call the meeting and this quick visit most successful. [end recording]

[Eshel] U.S. Ambassador Linowitz confirmed Minister Burg's statements, saying that he, too, felt that progress was made. I was honored to be present at the meeting at which Dr Burg and Dr Mustafa Khalil reached an agreement, Linowitz said. For me it was an enriching experience, Linowitz concluded.

This is Dan Eshel at Ben-Gurion Airport, returning the broadcast to the studio.

Further Details on Meeting

TA121845 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 12 Dec 79 TA

[Excerpt] Our correspondent has learned that the meeting in Cairo was held in a good atmosphere. Dr Khalil apologized for not being able to come to the scheduled plenary meeting this week, but he gave assurances that this was not an attempt to shun responsibility. Dr Khalil asked Dr Burg to convey his best wishes to Prime Minister Menahem Begin as well as his promise that Egypt would fulfill all its obligations concerning the normalization. Khalil noted that several months ago Egypt had begun preparing for this. Egypt, Khalil said, has set up working teams headed by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali.

BURG ON INCLUSION OF PALESTINIANS, JORDAN IN TALKS

TA130729 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 13 Dec 79 pp 1, 2 TA

[By 'Oded Zaray, HA'ARETZ envoy in Cairo]

[Excerpt] Replying to a question by the HA'ARETZ correspondent, Dr Burg--aboard the U.S. Air Force plane that was put at the disposal of Ambassador Linowitz--said that he was bringing several normalization proposals to Mr Begin, based on his talks with the Egyptian Prime Minister and Minister of State and Foreign Affairs Dr Ghali.

Replying to another question, he said that the issue of incorporating Palestinians in the autonomy talks, which was mentioned yesterday in Cairo, is one of the goals. In his opinion, this was a "waste of time" because of the Bassam ash-Shak'ah affair. Dr Burg disclosed that several months ago he had expressed his desire to hold contacts with notables from the territories to Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman. He said his wishes will be fulfilled.

As for the possibility that Jordan would join the talks, Dr Burg said that the Iranian earthquake concerns--and perhaps even hampers--the stability of the monarchies in the area. In this respect, the kings in this region must understand that the stability [of their regimes] lies in having peace with Israel.

LINOWITZ MEETS BEGIN BEFORE DEPARTURE FOR U.S.

TA130816 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 13 Dec 79 TA

[Text] The U.S. envoy to the autonomy talks, Sol Linowitz, met for 30 minutes with the prime minister at his office in Jerusalem. The ambassador said afterward that he is encouraged by his visit and that he found both in Israel and in Egypt a clear commitment to continue with the peace process.

Answering a question by our correspondent David Essing, the U.S. representative said that during the talk normalization between Israel and Egypt had also been discussed, and he hoped there would be progress by virtue of mutual understanding.

After the meeting with the prime minister, Linowitz left for Ben-Gurion Airport for his return to Washington.

PERES RETURNS FROM U.S., COMMENTS ON SUPPORT

TA121036 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 12 Dec 79 TA

[Text] MK Shim'on Peres said, on his return from the United States, that there is a great fear that in the event of confrontation between Israel and Washington we will not be able to rely on the support of the American Jews on the matters of Gush Emunim and the settlements, even though U.S. Jewish support for Israel is in general firm.

The chairman of the Labor Party did say, however, that he had formed the impression that following the events in Tehran Washington understands Israel's position concerning the PLO and terror better, but Israel's overall image is affected by its economic situation, the questions about the negotiations with Egypt and the settlements problem.

When he was asked to react to Dr Yisra'el Peled's declaration concerning the prime minister's health, MK Peres said that the situation of any [as heard] government and, following this, also of the country arouses concern, and it is not a question of physical health.

PRESS ON U.S.-SAUDI ARMS DEAL, ELON MORE

TA131036 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 13 Dec 79 TA

[Review of midday press editorials]

[Text] MA'ARIV says the influx of sophisticated U.S. arms to Saudi Arabia will not strengthen the pro-Western regime in Riyadh. The United States has an overall responsibility for peace in the region and any additional missiles sent to an Arab state bordering on the Gulf of Elat, and refusing to coexist in peace with us, cause us to be concerned.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT writes that even before the prime minister had a chance to say that the Elon More settlers are leaving their site, they have already announced that they intend to do so only if their conditions are met. Every transgression is bad for us, but one can also understand the mood of the settlers, who refuse to be eternal Jews wandering in their homeland.

BRITISH MINISTER HURD MEETS WEST BANK RESIDENTS

TA121628 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 12 Dec 79 TA

[Text] Several personalities from the territories lunched with British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Douglas Hurd. These included Anwar an-Nusaybah, a former Jordanian defense minister; Ilyas Frayj, Bethlehem's mayor; and Ja'far al-Masri, Nabulus' deputy mayor. They told the guest that the establishment of settlements in the territories is dangerous and noted that the Palestinians aspire to self-determination and a Palestinian state.

Holds News Conference

TA121912 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1710 GMT 12 Dec 79 TA

[Text] Jerusalem, 12 Dec--"The British Government does not regard the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people and it does not hold any kind of negotiations on any government level with it, except for chance contacts," Douglas Hurd, the British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, said at a news conference he held this afternoon at the Jerusalem Bet Agron.

Mr Hurd is the first ministerial level government representative who has visited Israel officially on behalf of Mrs M. Thatcher's government. During his visit, he met with the prime minister, ministers and public figures, including Arab personalities from Judaea and Samaria.

Replying to correspondents' questions, Mr Hurd clarified that the British Government supports the Camp David accords and follows the peace process and the autonomy talks with the hopes that these steps would bring final peace to this area.

Even though Britain does not regard the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people, neither can any other body be regarded as their representative for the purpose of fulfilling the autonomy framework, which in fact talks about the Palestinians' affairs. "However, we must not give advice to those who are holding the talks, and especially not to Israel, which must reach its own decsiions because it, more than any other body, is endangering its causes," Mr Hurd pointed out.

The British minister expressed his opinion that a certain development can be traced in the PLO's path, which is turning more and more into a political body. "Nevertheless, this development, which is positive, is still far from being complete and comprehensive.

SHARON ISOLATED IN KNESSET AGRICULTURE VOTE

TA122020 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 12 Dec 79 TA

[Excerpts] Agriculture Minister Sharon was not supported by the Coalition Knesset members in the Knesset today. Despite his objection the Knesset decided to deal with two motions to the agenda pertaining to the crisis in agriculture. In contrast, the Knesset decided to strike off the agenda two other proposals on the same issue. Our correspondent Yoram Ronen reports.

[Begin Ronen videotape] In the Knesset vote Minister Sharon was almost completely isolated. Most of the Knesset members, from both Coalition and opposition, voted against him when he asked that MK Pesah Grupper's proposal [blaming Minister Sharon for the crisis] be stuck from the agenda. The prime minister voted with Minister Sharon at first.

Later Begin voted again with the Likud faction's members supporting Pesah Gruper. [Begin is seen raising his hand both in favor of Sharon's and Grupper's motions].

YEDI'OT AHARONOT ON COALITION'S DEPENDENCE ON BEGIN

TA121158 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 12 Dec 79 p 3 TA

[Bina Barzel article: "Begin: I Do Not Entertain Any Notion Whatever of Quitting"]

[Text] It has often been said that the Likud Cabinet derives its power from its weakness. The Cabinet was given a chance this week to demonstrate the full measure of its power over Dr Yisra'el Peled's heretical assertions about the prime minister's health.

Peled's words, as well as the renewed rumors about plans to establish a cabinet headed by Weizman, caused a loyalist rallying of most Likud members around the Cabinet. Declarations of loyalty to Begin came streaming from every direction, and all talk about the functioning of the Cabinet and the prime minister's capability stopped.

The chief conclusion to be drawn from recent development is that as long as Begin does not withdraw of his own free will ("I do not entertain any such notions at all," he said), no change whatever in the political situation can be expected.

Knesset Member Dov Shilanski's candid remark this week was quite to the point: "Today, anyone daring to lift a finger against Begin must be a complete idiot. In Herut he is putting his career at stake." Herut Secretariat Chairman Yoram Aridor has this to say: "The discussion of who is to replace Begin is similar to the question a man was asked--about whom he wants to marry after divorcing his wife, whom he doesn't want to divorce."

About the Likud situation this week it can be said that even though the marriage with Begin was not motivated by love, it is perforce a Catholic marriage. The declarations of loyalty to the prime minister demonstrated the dependence of Coalition members on Begin and the futility of plans to form a new Cabinet without him. This proved true of, more than anyone else, the abortion law amendment "refuseniks," who literally forced the prime minister to apply Coalition discipline to them lest they, God forbid, cause the Cabinet to fall.

It seems the seasoned Likud functionaries know quite well that plans for establishing a Weizman-Ehrlich cabinet during the present Knesset term are no more than a house of cards. A withdrawal by Begin can mean only early elections and the end of a political career for many of them.

With whom might 'Ezer and Ehrlich form a cabinet: With the democrats, who started with 15 Knesset seats and who now have only 6, 2 of which are no longer certain; with people from the NRP, which has nothing to lose in elections, and who brandish the flag of Judaea and Samaria; with the Aguda, and its religious demands; with Shay, which is seeking a way to the Alinement?

This fact--that without Begin everything will disintegrate--is also realized by the liberals. One of the deputy prime minister's associates told me: "Ehrlich is no fool. He well knows that going against Begin is tantamount to suicide." What then is causing Ehrlich to make his aggressive declarations?

There are those who claim that he is frustrated by the loss of the finance portfolio and ready for a deed a la "let me die with the Philistines."

But those who know Ehrlich say that the man, who this week celebrates his 64th birthday, is far from the type likely to commit suicide. The thunderbolts he is dispatching all around him do not indicate a political suicide. They are part of the campaign anticipating the liberal convention that is to be held in 3 months.

He keeps talking about the discrimination against the Liberal Party in the Cabinet, and it looks as if Begin is ready to accommodate any of his demands. The prime minister is willing to let the liberals have the foreign affairs portfolio, the only trouble being that there is nobody to give it to. The party, which in the past had a host of charismatic figures (remember Rokah, Krinitzi, Serlin?), is now poor on candidates. The names of jurist Amnon Goldenberg and of Jewish Agency Chairman Arye Dultzin have been mentioned, but neither has been too enthusiastic. There was even mention of old party veteran S. Z. Avrahamov.

An internal struggle in the Liberal Party over the foreign affairs portfolio is not to be ruled out (Grupper said: "I must think, I may have better candidates"). In this context, the names of Moda'i, Berman and Sharir have been mentioned.

JERUSALEM POST: EGYPT, PALESTINIANS MEETING SECRETLY

TA130854 Jerusalem POST in English 13 Dec 79 p 1 TA

[By Anan Safadai]

[Text] Cairo--Official sources here yesterday disclosed that one of Egypt's ranking delegates to the autonomy talks with Israel and the U.S. has for some time been conducting negotiations with leading figures in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The sources said that Ibn Ahmad 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif, Egypt's chief representative at the autonomy working groups, has in the past four weeks made a number of trips to Jerusalem for this purpose.

'Abd al-Latif's talks with West Bank and Gaza leaders had been shrouded in secrecy. This was presumably to avoid embarrassing the leaders, as well as Cairo, which has prohibited Egyptian officials from visiting Jerusalem prior to the normalization of relations with Israel.

The sources here, while declining to divulge the names of the Arab leaders 'Abd al-Latif has been in touch with, noted, however, that these contacts have been quite rewarding for Cairo.

'Abd al-Latif's meetings with West Bank and Gaza leaders were revealed after reports he submitted to his Foreign Ministry were leaked to prominent political commentators here. The sources said that the commentators were also informed of a number of written messages 'Abd al-Latif had carried from West Bank and Gaza leaders to Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat.

Circles close to the Israeli neogitating delegation yesterday conceded that Jerusalem was not aware of these direct contacts. Israel's chief negotiator, Interior Minister Yosef Burg, is preparing to launch similar contacts with Arab leaders in the near future.

Sol Linowitz, U.S. chief envoy to the autonomy negotiations, yesterday said that his own sources had informed him of a readiness among West Bank and Gaza leaders to explore progress in the autonomy negotiations. But there was no indication that the American delegation had been aware of the actual contacts made by the Egyptians.

AFGHANISTAN

TEHRAN REPORTS BATTLES BETWEEN GOVERNMENT FORCES, REBELS

LD130144 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0030 GMT 13 Dec 79 LD

[Text] In a fierce battle with government forces, which took place 100 km from the city of Herat, Afghanistan's Muslim strugglers killed 80 members of Hafizollah Amin's People's Party and they themselves lost 3 killed. Moreover, in a tough battle in the Homa Kuh area between the Muslim strugglers led by Zabihullah, and the forces of Hafizollah Amin, 21 government troops were killed and one car was set ablaze.

Disseminating this report, Afghanistan's Islamic movement's correspondent said: In the Khuzestan area the Muslims killed a civil servant from the Finance Ministry and five others. He said: In the fighting which took place some time ago in Kabul's presidential palace between the supporters of Taraki and Amin, 30 persons were killed and Amin himself was snatched from the fighting area by foreign advisers. We should remember that Hafizollah Amin yesterday announced that he had crushed a coup plot.

AMBASSADOR TO SAUDI ARABIA JOINS REGIME'S OPPONENTS

JN130856 AMMAN AR-RA'Y in Arabic 13 Dec 79 p 1 JN

[Exclusive to AR-RA'Y]

[Text] Jidda--Afghan Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Mohamed Akbar Harwani has declared that he will join the Afghani rebels who are fighting the communist regime in Afghanistan. The ambassador, who has left Jidda for Afghanistan, added that he does not regret the decision.

Declares for Rebels

LD121725 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 11 Dec 79 p 1 LD

[Yunis Muhammad Isaq untitled report]

[Text] Jidda, ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT bureau--Former Afghan Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Mohamed Akbar Harwani has criticized the policy of his country's communist regime, which is based on despotism, oppression, injustice and denial of freedoms.

The ambassador left his country's embassy suddenly to join the Muslim revolutionaries fighting against President Hafizollah Amin's regime. He said that he did not regret taking this decision. He denied that he resigned his post as a result of strong pressures by Hafizollah Amin's government. He emphasized that he was still the ambassador of the real Afghanistan.

Harwani explained in an exclusive statement to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that he would do everything in his power to overthrow the existing regime in his country and that he was quite convinced that his country's present policy and its close cooperation with the Soviets were inflicting enormous damage on his country as a Muslim state.

He pointed out that the communist regime in his country has displaced, killed, imprisoned and tortured 1 million Muslims and destroyed houses and villages, crops and even cattle. He added that the communist regime in Afghanistan is fighting the Muslim religion and has abolished many of its sublime teachings. Harwani said that it is enough for anyone to see the names and photographs of 12,000 martyrs who died as victims of the regime.

He pointed out that the Soviets have two objectives in interfering in Afghanistan's internal affairs; the first is to improve their positions in the warm waters of the Indian Ocean and the Arab Gulf; the second objective is to prevent the Muslim revolution in Afghanistan from succeeding, because its success entails a price they would have to pay, namely, a revolution by the millions of oppressed Muslims in the Soviet Union against the Russians. If our revolution in Afghanistan succeeds, it will be a good start for the liberation of 73 million Muslims in the Soviet Union.

Harwani warned the Western states of the consequences of interfering in his country. He said: I hope that these states will neither follow,the example of the Soviet Union in this nor take it as an excuse to impose their foreign influence and increase tension there.

Asked about the possibility of coup taking place against the existing situation in Afghanistan, the former ambassador commented on this by saying: There is grumbling about the current situation within the army. There are rumors about a possible coup to rectify the situation. I hope that this will take place soon, God willing, so that our country will be liberated from this corrupt clique which has displaced many people. About 3 million Muslims are now suffering from the war and the hardships imposed on them by the communist regime's supporters.

The Afghan ambassador pointed out that he has not yet contacted the other groups or the Muslim revolutionaries who are fighting against the communist regime and that he has not yet decided which side to join in order to work against the pro-Soviet forces.

He said: I see three possible areas for starting the battle against the communists--Iran, China or Pakistan, although I favor the Pakistani Government's attitude and its approval of and support for such a step.

In the course of his statement, he said that he has spent most of his life fighting against atheist tendencies and anti-Islamic movements. He said that after the revolution began he chose the best way to fight the regime until the Muslim fighters force was established. The battle between these fighters and the communist regime is not equal because the communists, with the Soviets' support, are using the most modern and most destructive weapons against the fighters, who rely on whatever they seize from the procommunist regime's forces.

He concluded his statement by saying that he decided to resign from the service of the communist regime in Afghanistan of his own free will and his complete beief in the fighters' cause--the liberation of their country from communist filth.

He expressed his hope that others would follow his example and leave this disgraceful employment to work in the service of their religion and country. He also hoped that it would be God's wish for him to participate in the battle and to be martyred for the sake of upholding God's word.

It is worth noting that Harwani worked as Afghan ambassador to Saudi Arabia from 10 October 1978 and spent 55 years in diplomatic work.

BANGLADESH

DELEGATION GOES TO DELHI TALKS ON BORDER PROBLEMS

BK121530 Dacca Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 12 Dec 79 BK

[Text] A Bangladesh official delegation led by the home secretary has gone to New Delhi for talks with the Indian side on the border situation and other related matters. Talking to newsmen at the Dacca airport before his departure, the delegation leader expressed the hope that the unfortunate tension along the border will be defused and a satisfactory solution will be found during the 3-day talks between the two countries.

The talks which begin in the capital tomorrow are expected to examine the report of the expert-level joint committee of the Joint Rivers Commission on the border river problems and the implementation of the India-Bangladesh Boundary Agreement of 1974.

INDIA

PRESIDENT'S RULE RECOMMENDED FOR ASSAM STATE

BK121520 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 12 Dec 79 BK

[Text] According to news agency reports, Assam Governor L.P. Singh has recommended to the center imposition of president's rule in Assam for a brief period.

Prime Minister Charan Singh called on President Sanjiva Reddy at Rashtrapati Bhavan [president's house] this evening. The meeting lasted for about 40 minutes. The prime minister is understood to have advised the president of the general law and order situation in the country with special reference to Assam.

Earlier, Chief Election Commissioner Shakhder said in New Delhi that polling will be held as scheduled in the three constituencies of Assam where nominations have been filed. He said polling will not be possible in Borpeta where three candidates withdrew their nominations yesterday. The nomination papers of the other candidate, Begum Abida Ahmed, was rejected.

The curfew imposed in a part of the Borpeta town and its suburbs on Monday last was lifted today. With this the state is now free from curfew regulations. However prohibitory orders at various places in the state will remain in force as a precautionary measure.

Suggestion Put In Force

BK121608 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Dec 79 BK

[Text] Assam has been brought under president's rule. A Rashtrapati Shavan [president's house] communique issued tonight says the state assembly will be kept in suspended animation.

The union cabinet, which met late this evening, recommended the imposition of president's rule. The emergency meeting of the cabinet, which lasted for about 30 minutes, considered the report sent by the northeast states governor, Mr L. P. Singh. He is understood to have stated that the constitutional machinery in Assam has broken down and no party or parties are in a position to form a stable government.

Hazarika Scores President's Rule

BK130452 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0245 GMT 13 Dec 79 BK

[Text] Mr J.N. Hazarika has expressed surprise at the attitude of the center in imposing president's rule in Assam. Giving his reaction to Guahati, he said this does not reflect any commitment to democratic principle. Mr Hazarika said that the majority of the legislators would have supported his policies in respect of party affiliations if the governor [words indistinct] to ascertain the strength of his government in the house. He said that the governor has acted hastily in advising the center to impose president's rule in the state.

The leader of the Assam Janata legislature party, Mr Golap Borbora has said that president's rule was imposed in the state as Mr Hazarika did not resign although his ministry was reduced to a minority.

The Congres-U legislature party leader, Mr S.C. Sinha has said that political parties should now explore all possibilities to form an alternative government in the state since assembly has been kept under suspended [word indistinct].

GUNMEN SERIOUSLY INJURE MANIPUR STATE ASSEMBLY SPEAKER

BK121518 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 12 Dec 79 BK

[Text] The speaker of the Manipur assembly, Mr R.K. Ranbir Singh, sustained serious head injuries when two unidentified gunmen shot at him at his residence in Imphal early this morning. He was immediately removed to the hospital for an emergency operation.

The inspector general of police told PTI that two persons came on a bicycle to the residence of the spaker and fired two shots from their revolvers as soon as the speaker came out. The security guards fired at them three rounds but the assailants escaped. The police have luanched a massive hunt to apprehend the culprits.

PAKISTAN

CULTURAL COOPERATION ACCORD SIGNED WITH USSR

BK131009 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 12 Dec 79 BK

[Text] A protocol of cooperation in the fields of education, culture and science was signed between Pakistan and the Soviet Union in Islamabad today. Under the agreement, which will be valid for 2 years, cultural troupes, exhibitions, experts on education, health and sports fields will be exchanged.

A large number of scholarships will also be awarded. Pakistan will award scholarships to Russian scholars for learing the Urdu language. There will also be exchange of delegations of educationists, teachers, scientists and of publications. Delegations from TV, press and radio will also be exchanged.

RESTRICTION IMPOSED ON MUSAWAAT PUBLICATIONS

BK130332 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 13 Dec 79 BK

[Text] According to PAKISTAN PRESS INTERNATIONAL, the Punjab governor and martial law administrator has issued an order under Martial Law Regulation No 49 imposing immediate restriction [pasandi] on the publication of the Urdu daily of Lahore and Faisalabad, MUSAWAAT, and the use of the MUSAWAAT press.